

# The Noticeboard

*A Local Charity*

Each month find out more  
about a local charity

# 2021

# HAPPY

# NEW YEAR

*Recipes*

*"When The Wind Blows"*

*A radio play by the Culbokie  
Players . About the play,  
where the idea came from  
and meet the cast.*

**Puzzles a  
plenty**

## EDITORS NOTE

Happy New Year to you all (even if we are coming to the end of Feb already!)

I hope everyone is keeping well and managed to have a nice Christmas/New Year.

Firstly, I'm going to start putting The Noticeboard out every other month. I have a lot of uni work and assessments which I need to put as a priority and this move should hopefully mean I have plenty of time for both uni and The Noticeboard without them both being last minute.

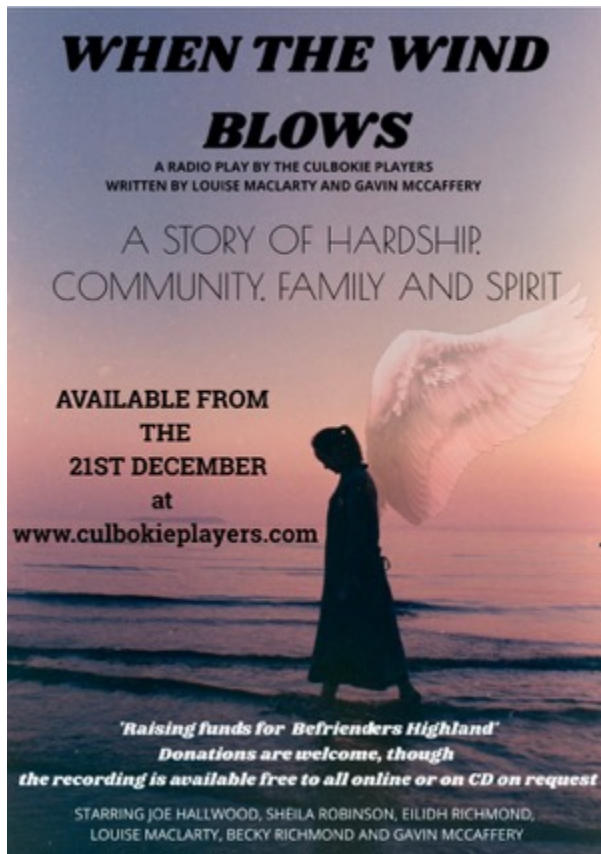
Secondly, as you will see on the front cover in each edition, I am hoping to promote a charity either local to the area, or that someone in the local area is involved with. So, if you work/volunteer/know about a charity that you want people to know about please do get in touch.

That just leaves me to say that the deadline for the next edition will be

21<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Please email any articles or stories to  
[thenoticeboard\\_fcc@outlook.com](mailto:thenoticeboard_fcc@outlook.com)

Eilidh  
Editor of The Noticeboard



## MEET THE CAST

As we had no panto last year two of our team members, Louise MacLarty and Gavin McCaffery, wrote an incredibly moving Christmas radio play. It is a story set locally and covers the hard times we are living through with COVID and shows that small acts of kindness can go a long way and not go unnoticed.

The script was fantastic, and the cast did a brilliant job bringing each character to life and telling their story.

The cast very kindly answered some question about the play, what it was like doing this project during COVID and what they get up to within the Culbokie Players.

Meet the cast of 'When the Wind Blows' below.

### Sheila Robinson

Who are you playing in the radio play? [I play Morag, and old lady who is having to shield due to COVID.](#)

What do you hope people will take away from the play? [We are all in this together and each of us are trying to find ways of coping with the restricted life we now have to deal with.](#)

What were the Challenges of doing a play during COVID? [Meeting up and getting the hall ready for recording with strict distancing rules needing to be complied with.](#)

What was your favourite scene in the play? [I enjoyed all of it!](#)

Do you relate to your character in any way? [I think we all have a bit of each of the cast in us, some more noticeable than others!](#)

If you could give someone a piece of advice for getting through Lockdown what would it be? [Keep focused on keeping busy and finding something to keep the brain working, can be extremely difficult at times but we must never let this beat us.](#)

Will there be another radio play? [I really hope so](#)

What has been your favourite show to take part in with the Culbokie Players? [Culbokie's got talent and in particular - If I were not upon the stage](#)

Why should people join the Culbokie players? [To meet new people and have fun – that should always be what it's all about – the bonus being we can make folk smile and sometimes even laugh out loud!](#)



## Elidh Richmond

Your name and who are you playing? I play Ellie who is the daughter of Calum and Kirsten. Ellie is having to spend lockdown in Spain.

What do you hope people will take away from the play? I hope it will give everyone a little bit of comfort that we're all in the same boat and remember to check in on one another.

What was your favourite scene in the play? My favourite scene was the final scene with Calum and Ellie. It was such a sweet and moving scene and was quite emotional followed by Rachels final monologue.

Do you relate to your character in any way? Out of the characters I probably relate to Calum more than Ellie and the struggles and helplessness that Calum felt throughout lockdown.

If you could give someone a piece of advice for getting through Lockdown what would it be? A piece of advice I would give someone would be keep as active as you can. If you are able to do family or friend zoom meet up, get out walks and try new things. I think the minute you stop doing, it gives you too much time to worry and get bogged down with everything "COVID".

Will there be another radio play? I don't know. I would love it if there is as I had so much fun doing this one!

What has been your favourite show to take part in with the Culbokie Players? It would be a toss-up between Culbokies Got Talent and Dick McWhitavadun

Why should people join the Culbokie players? Because were all an awesome bunch of people and It's a lot fun.



## Joe Hallwood

Your name and who are you playing? I play Calum the husband of Kirsten and the owner of the Culbokie Tavern.

What do you hope people will take away from the play? Whichever way the wind blows, we gotta keep on sailing.

What were the Challenges of doing a play during COVID? Rehearsals were quite difficult, but because it was a radio play, we had a reduced numbers and no action or interaction was needed.

What was your favourite scene in the play? The final scene, when it all comes together.

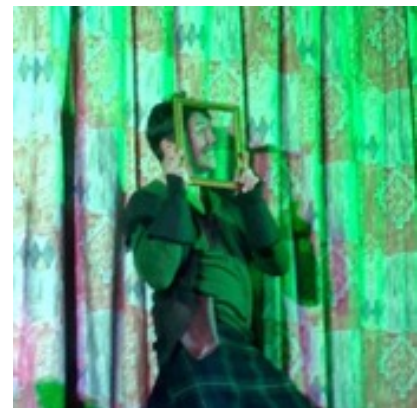
Do you relate to your character in any way? No, he's more optimistic than I am!

If you could give someone a piece of advice for getting through Lockdown what would it be? There's always someone worse off, and though it might feel like it's going on forever, it isn't, there is an end and we've got to keep on sailing!

Will there be another radio play? Dunno, hopefully the next production will be live on stage!

What been your favourite show to take part in with the Culbokie Players? Probably the last Panto, a lot of fun and a really great show.

Why should people join the Culbokie players? It's good to try something that's out of your comfort zone, going on stage for the first time is a real challenge, but the feeling you get after is fantastic.



## Becky Richmond

Your name and who are you playing? I play Rachel. I wander the beach with my dog, speaking to those who need me most. I also narrate the story.

What do you hope people will take away from the play? A message of hope and keeping the faith. That good comes through in the end and community matters.

What were the Challenges of doing a play during COVID? Social distancing, not being able to rehearse together, and knowing that the rest of the group was missing out because we couldn't have a bigger cast

What was your favourite scene in the play? My favourite scenes were the ones that Morag and Lewis were in. I liked the characters as they added a bit of humour.

Do you relate to your character in any way? Yes, the faith side and her relationship with God.

If you could give someone a piece of advice for getting through Lockdown what would it be? Make sure you keep in touch with people! If you're on your own reach out for company if you want to, and if you're lucky enough to be in a family make sure you look out for each other.

Will there be another radio play? I HOPE SO, I REALLLY HOPE SO!!! Gav and Louise are awesome writers

What has been your favourite show to take part in with the Culbokie Players? Oh, um, I think it has to be Culbokies Got Talent.

Why should people join the Culbokie players? Cause it's so much fun, everyone supports everyone and you don't need any talent. In fact the less talent the better then you won't put any of us to shame! :-)

## Louise MacLarty

Who are you playing? I played the role of Kirsten, the wife of the main character.

How did you go about writing this play? This year with Covid 19, sadly, the annual pantomime couldn't go ahead. Gavin and I considered the idea of a radio play in November, it wouldn't be the same as a panto but perhaps would provide some light entertainment for folk to enjoy. We got our heads together and made up a story about life in the COVID 19 pandemic with a little inspiration from the classic Christmas film, It's A Wonderful Life.

What do you hope people will take away from the play? The main message is about the importance of kindness and looking out for each other; neighbours, friends and family in difficult times. It highlights the issue of loneliness and social isolation which can have a detrimental effect on health and well-being.

What were the Challenges of doing a play during COVID? Many! It's hard not being able to have 'normal' rehearsals and sticking to all the numerous rules about group numbers and social distancing!

Did you have an idea of who you want as each part? Not really, we had to keep parts to a minimum so as to make the production of the story as simple as possible.

What was your favourite scene in the play? I liked the scenes with Morag where she muddles her words up and doesn't even realise she's being funny.

If you could give someone a piece of advice for getting through Lockdown what would it be? Keep as active as you can and don't watch too much news!

Will there be another radio play? I prefer stage plays!

What has been your favourite show to take part in with the Culbokie Players? Definitely Dick McWhittington.

Why should people join the Culbokie players? It's so much fun, we don't take 'am-dram' too seriously (in fact quite the opposite!) and you will undoubtedly make new friends and maybe even discover new talents hidden within!



## Gavin McCaffery

Who are you playing? I play Lewis one of the people in the village who benefits from Calums kindness

How did you go about writing this play? Lou contacted me with the idea of writing and recording a play as there would be no panto this year it is based along the same lines as 'it's a wonderful life' it tells the story of a couple who between them work in hospitality and the health service, two sectors hit hard in the pandemic. It shows that little acts of kindness that seem insignificant can have a huge effect on others.

What do you hope people will take away from the play? I hope they takeaway the feeling that in a small community we should look after each other and be good neighbours to those who need it

Did you have an idea of who you want as each part? Not really. But when you are writing you sometimes get a feeling of the character, how they should sound and maybe that moves in a direction of its own. It would have been lovely to write something for everyone to have a part but it was just not possible.

What were the Challenges of doing a play during COVID? Rehearsing with all the safety rules in place and setting about the recording process which was new to us. But I am delighted with how it turned out.

What was your favourite scene in the play? Hard to choose, I think the scenes where Kristen and Calum are discussing how COVID is impacting their working and personal lives and livelihoods will resonate with people listening.

Do you relate to your character in any way? No way, I hate gardening!!!

If you could give someone a piece of advice for getting through Lockdown what would it be? Stay safe and stay in touch with one another and stay off Facebook

Will there be another radio play? Not sure, I really hope we get the panto back this year

What has been your favourite show to take part in with the Culbokie Players? I loved Alladin and the pirates of Cromarty bay, but last year's Dick Mc whithavadun will take some beating

Why should people join the Culbokie players? t's just great fun. You don't need talent just a willingness to leave your dignity at the door and throw yourself into it. You will make some great friends and have a lot of laughs. You may surprise yourself!

Thank you to the cast of "When the wind blows" for answering our questions and giving us an insight into the play. "When the Wind Blows" can be downloaded for free from [www.culbokieplayers.com](http://www.culbokieplayers.com). Whilst the recording is free to download, they have set up a donation link to raise funds for Befrienders Highland.

You can also buy a CD from Culbokie Spar or if you are unable to download the recording, you may request a CD for free.

We hope you enjoy listening to this radio play and we can't wait to see you all from the stage again.



## **HISTORY GROUP**

*The following new information is available in the history section of the web site.*

- 1. Additions to the Findon Hall page to reflect the recent major renovations and a fascinating fund-raising schedule from 1907 aiming to clear the outstanding debt incurred with the building of the original hall.*
- 2. An addition to "People of Culbokie – William Urquhart" to reflect the publication of a book written by one of his ancestors that details the life they led in Connecticut. Also information regarding Alexander Ross (born 1838) provided by Katie Izatt.*
- 3. The history of the housing developments of Mount Eagle Drive and Court, Balnatua and Raven Croft. Any further reminiscences and photographs would be most welcome.*
- 4. Additions to the Findon Dun page in Archaeology and Ancient sites section include two surveys of the site.*
- 5. In the Village School page there are group photographs for 1979 and 1980 – can you supply the missing information?*

*We'd love to identify a volunteer with an interest in researching the role played by the Templars in Culbokie. If you'd like to help or have any information that you think might be of interest, please contact [history@culbokie.org](mailto:history@culbokie.org)*

*We have also set up a modern history archive that will record current events that will become future history. In the Covid year 2020 we have set up an archive of photographs showing the development of the Sharing Shed and the Lockdown Quilt.*

*We would welcome any photographs recording local life for the archive.*

## **BAKEWELL TARTS**

- 
- 2 x 320g sheets of all butter shortcrust pastry
- 

### **For the frangipane**

- 
- 120g [butter](#), softened
  - 120g [golden caster sugar](#)
  - 1 [egg](#)
  - 1 tbsp [plain flour](#)
  - 110g [ground almonds](#)
  - 90g cherry jam
- 

### **For the icing**

- 
- 200g [icing sugar](#)
  - 12 glacé cherries
- 

### **Method**

**STEP 1** - Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Lightly butter a 12 hole muffin tin. Unroll the sheet of pastry and use a 10cm circular pastry cutter to cut 12 circles out of the pastry sheet. Press the cut circles into the holes of the tin, making sure they come right up and slightly over the top – pushing out any creases. Chill the pastry in the fridge for 20mins. Scrunch up 10cm x 10cm squares of baking paper and then un-scrunch and use to line each of the pastry tarts, then fill with baking beans, rice or dried pulses. Bake for 10 mins, then remove the paper and beans and bake for 10 mins longer, until golden brown. Set aside to cool a little.

**STEP 2** - Make the filling by beating together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy, then whisk in the egg, followed by the flour (the flour will prevent the mixture from splitting). Fold in the ground almonds. Spoon a level tsp of cherry jam into each of the pastry shells, followed by a tablespoon of the frangipane mixture. Bake for 20 mins, until the frangipane is golden and springy. Set aside to cool completely. Neaten the edges of the pastry with a small knife or scissors if you like.

**STEP 3** - Mix the icing sugar with 2 tbsp water. Spread the icing over each of the tarts, top each with a glacé cherry, leave to set for 20 mins, then serve with tea.

Bakewell tarts recipes, Silock E, (unknown) [Online] Available at <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/bakewell-tarts> (22nd January 2021)

Ferintosh Volunteers

## Request Line

07516 261429

Here for those in the Ferintosh  
Community Council area

Do you live in the Ferintosh area, including Culbokie, and need practical help?

If so, Ferintosh Volunteers can help with various jobs, for example:

- ✓ Delivery and collection of prescriptions
- ✓ Shopping
- ✓ Path clearing
- ✓ Basic computer/tablet/smart phone support by phone
- ✓ Advice on setting up zoom or email.

Contact the request line by sending a text or leaving a voice message with your own contact number between 9.00am and 9.00 pm. We will pick up messages daily and one of the Ferintosh Volunteers will contact you.

Request Line number: 07516 261429

Ferintosh Volunteers



## Culbokie Lockdown Quilt

A big thank you to everyone who created a patch for the community quilt. The final quilt will comprise 48 patches that show a range of lockdown experiences in a variety of different craft/needlework styles. With so many patches, from village groups and individuals of all ages, we will create three separate panels for the gable wall in Findon Hall to make a lovely bright cheery addition to the decor.

Our three quilting experts, Wendy, Beryl and Allison, are currently joining the patches with charcoal grey sashing and borders and a CCT volunteer has kindly offered to construct the frames.

## Culbokie Sharing Shed

**Open Every Day 1000-1530 beside Church**

**Books, DVDs, toys and games, food and lots more.**

**Please come along, bring and/or take items**

**(In date, clean and no clothes please)**

**There is now a box in Culbokie Spar for food donations such as tea, coffee, biscuits, sugar, pasta, jam, soup etc. Please donate if you can.**

**Thanks to everyone for their support**

To keep up-to-date with what's available join the Culbokie Sharing Shed group on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/343545136916931/>



# Culbokie Outdoor Market

**Saturdays 10:00 - 11:00**  
**Car Park next to Church**

**High quality local food**

- **Pro Fish**
- **Meat products (beef, bacon, sausages etc.)**
- **Lamb veg**
- **Venison**
- **The Chocolate Place**
- **Jams and preserves**
- **More crafts when restrictions allow**

**Please wear a face covering while  
you are at the market**

**Contactless card payments for most purchases**

**Social distancing will be observed**

## Colours of the Black Isle 2021 Calendars



Desk calendar (28.5 x 11cms)

**At a reduced price of £5**, only a few copies of the 2021 calendars remain and are available for sale at Culbokie Spar Shop and at The Cheese House in Cromarty. Both styles of calendar are spiral bound and feature striking photos from the 2020 Black Isle Photo Competition. If you have any queries, please do contact us by email at [event@culbokie.org](mailto:event@culbokie.org)



Wall calendar (29.5 x 21cms)

# Notecards for Sale



Sets of cards made from original photographs by John and Sue Brierley and original oil paintings by artist, Sonia Rose, can be ordered online by emailing [event@culbokiect.org](mailto:event@culbokiect.org). The cards, measuring 6" x 4", are blank inside for your own message. Choose any five cards for £4. Further info about how to order individual cards is posted on the Homepage of the CCT website.



Winter Pasture



Winter on the Black Isle



Winter Sheep



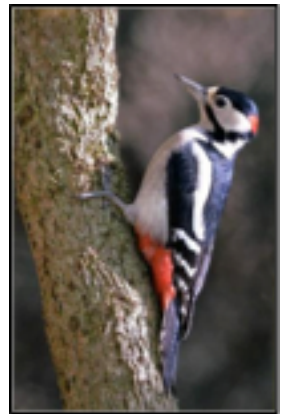
Squabbling Goldfinches



Jay



Crested Tit



Spotted Woodpecker



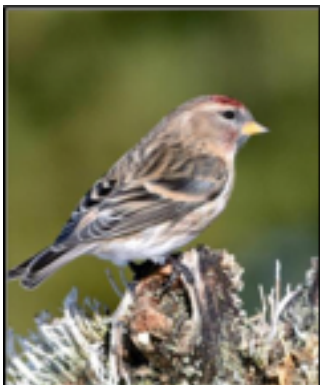
Ducks on Snow



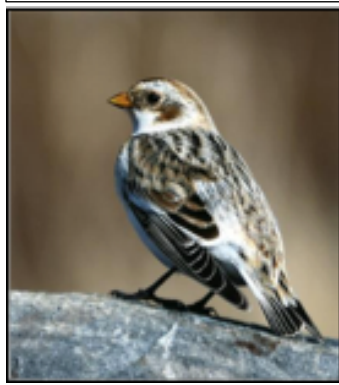
Ducks



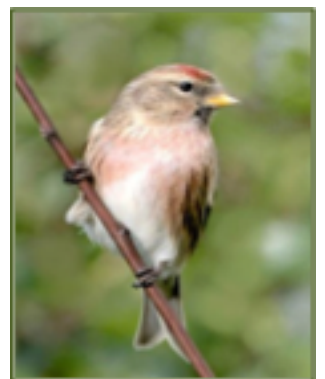
Cockerel



Red Poll



Snow Bunting



Red Poll 2

## Culbokie Church Centre

We hope many of you saw and enjoyed the Culbokie Church Centre lit up over the festive season, with the star in the upstairs window and the Christmas tree outside. There were also the pictures of candles, and the words HOPE, PEACE, JOY and LOVE, that appeared on the church windows on successive Sundays in December – reminding us of the key themes of Advent.



In previous years the congregation has contributed to Blythwood's Reverse Advent Calendar appeal by donating 24 items of food or household essentials. As this wasn't possible this year, we invited financial donations instead and raised a magnificent £930 for the Highland Foodbank.

The church building has been closed for services since December, but our Sunday morning services continue to be live-streamed from the manse at 11am on [www.cruparish.online.church](http://www.cruparish.online.church) and via facebook (and available on Youtube afterwards). The world wide web has helped turn us into a world wide church, with people in America and Canada regularly getting up at 6am to join us online!

We're also continuing to hold mid-week bible studies via Zoom on Wednesday evenings, led by Rev. Mike Rattenbury. In January we started a new series on the Old Testament prophecies, and no doubt new topics will be suggested and developed over the coming months. The evenings are both informative and informal, with opportunities for questions and discussion. Each evening is designed to be stand-alone, so folk are welcome to join at any time.

There is also an online prayer meeting on Friday evenings, hosted by our sister church in Cromarty. Further details are available from Martin Stringer. Cromarty church is organising the World Day of Prayer service on 5 March, which this year is focussing on the country and people of Vanuatu – details should appear on their website [www.cromartychurch.org](http://www.cromartychurch.org) in due course.

Easter still seems a while away, but some initial thinking and planning has started already to bring you a feast for your ears. Look and listen out for more nearer the time ...

If you want to know more about the Culbokie Church Centre and what's going on, please check out our website [www.culbokiechurchcentre.org](http://www.culbokiechurchcentre.org) and facebook, or contact Rev. Terry Burns on 877452 or email [TBurns@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:TBurns@churchofscotland.org.uk). For anyone who doesn't have online access, we can provide paper copies of the sermons and bible study notes, the weekly prayer sheet and Session Clerk updates - please contact Margaret Kinsman on 877631.

BURNS IN LOCKDOWN

We're aw awfy weary

Wi' Covid about

We're telt tae bide in

So we cannae go oot

So how can we celebrate Rabbie this year?

Ah'd shake baith yer hands

But Ah cannae, I fear

We're no' tae meet up

Cos the Covid is catchin'

But mach sure yer kilt

And yer face mask are matchin'

We aw have to hear what the scientists say

I'll gie ye a wave fi twa metres away

Since we were the gither

We've had a rough year

And noo aw yer toasts

Are wi' takeaway beer

We could dae a jig

Fur tae honour the Bard

But socially distancin'

Machs that gey hard

Wid Rabbie have managed?

We find oorsels askin'

This Covid's mare deadly

Than yon Carole Baskin

He'd have a guid moan

An' a greet, I expect

About gettin' haggis

On click and collect

A braw cosy supper

We're dreamin' about it

We cannae believe how

This year we're without it

No' even wi' face masks

An' hand sanitizer

But soon we'll get vaccines

From Oxford or Pfizer

So dream o' next year

When oor lives will be better

Yer granny's no shieldin'

Ye'll pop roond an' get her

An' hugs will be legal

There's hope and no' doom

We'll gaiter the gither

An' willnae need Zoom.

Thank you to Tom Coleman for sending this in!

# GENERAL KNOWLEDGE WORD QUIZ

Each answer is a 9-letter word. Choose 3 boxes for each. You can use a box only once.

INE	ABU	UPT	NDA	BAL	ATE
CAN	ISH	DIF	ENT	EMB	DER
FIR	ULT	GIB	ATE	HIB	AVA
INT	NCE	MAR	ACL	DID	ERR
GAR	ERN	MAM	ROI	FIC	BER

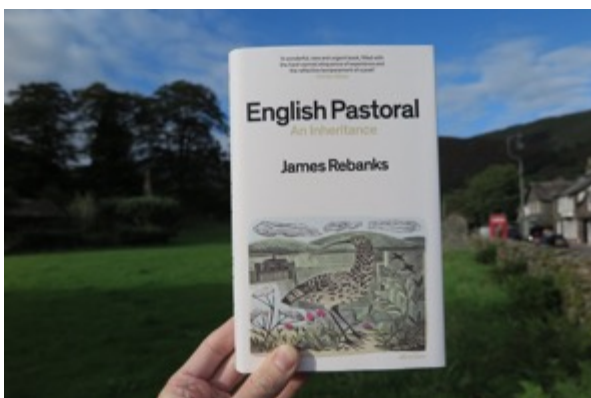
## CLUES:

1. Plenty
2. A warm knitted hat.
3. One who applies for a job, exam etc.
4. Not easy
5. To ornament with needlework.
6. Babbling talk.
7. To pass the winter in a resting state
8. To barge in - to break between
9. A butter-like substance.
10. The sky / heavens

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

'English Pastoral' by James Rebanks

This is a fabulous book written by James Rebanks who writes about the farming life on his farm in the lake district, starting from when he helped out his grandfather on the farm as a boy through to when he inherited the farm from his father. He talks about the change in farming from machinery, pesticides and conservation, and how the land and animals have changed as a result. Well worth a read or go to the BBC Sounds app or website and listen to the audio book (for free!)



# PLEASE DON'T FEED THE GULLS

IT MAKES THE GULLS  
AGGRESSIVE  
TOWARDS PEOPLE

IT AFFECTS THEIR  
HEALTH

IT ENCOURAGES THE  
STEALING OF FOOD

WILL CAUSE THEM  
TO OPEN RUBBISH  
BAGS

ALL SPECIES OF GULL ARE PROTECTED UNDER THE  
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981. THIS MAKES  
IT ILLEGAL TO INTENTIONALLY OR RECKLESSLY  
INJURE OR KILL A GULL.

Ferintosh Community Council  
Contact: ferintoshcc30@gmail.com



## The Black Isle Photographic Competition 2021

*It's Spring ...* the traditional time of year for CCT to launch our annual Black Isle Photographic Competition, sponsored this year by Tulloch Homes.



Now in its third year, the competition is open to keen amateurs, camera club members, first-time photographers, students and primary school pupils. You are invited to enter 3 digital photographs on the theme, '**Food and Drink of the Black Isle**'. The scope is wide, embracing opportunities to capture the colour of fresh produce displayed on Black Isle market stalls, the action in our harbours, breweries or cafes, the places and people who are making and selling the food and drink or the beauty of crops in our landscape. Make associations with the Black Isle and let your image tell the story. The closing date of **Saturday July 31<sup>st</sup>** gives time through the spring and summer to compile three images to submit in one of three age categories, each of which have cash prizes.

To access both the competition rules and entry form, simply click on the poster on the home page on the CCT website: <https://www.culbokiect.org/> Please send any queries to [event@culbokiect.org](mailto:event@culbokiect.org) and we will be happy to help.